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Senate

The Senate met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable MARK R. WARNER, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Virginia.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal Father, who withholds no good gift from those who walk uprightly, help our Senators this day to do Your will. Give them the grace to speak prudently when they must speak and to learn by listening and study. Inspire them to be unafraid of the difficult decisions, determined to act according to Your will, as they leave the consequences to Your providence.

Lord, awaken them to their accountability to You, for our lives and for the leadership of this Nation. Reward their faithfulness with peace of mind and joyfulness of spirit.

We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable MARK R. WARNER led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. INOUE).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, July 19, 2010.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable MARK R. WARNER, a

Senator from the Commonwealth of Virginia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

DANIEL K. INOUE,
President pro tempore.

Mr. WARNER thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following any leader remarks, there will be a period of morning business until 3 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each. Following morning business, the Senate will resume consideration of the small business jobs bill. There will be no rollcall votes during today's session of the Senate.

At 2:30 p.m. tomorrow, there will be a cloture vote with respect to H.R. 4213, which is legislation extending unemployment insurance benefits.

As a reminder, at 2:15 p.m. tomorrow, Carte Goodwin will be sworn in as Senator from West Virginia. I had an opportunity to meet with him an hour ago, and a wonderful young man he is. He has a beautiful wife with the unusual name of Rocky, but she is 8 months pregnant—a beautiful woman. They have a child, and they are looking forward to the new baby coming in the middle of August.

This week I wish to complete action on several legislative items that I have spoken to the Republican leader about, including unemployment insurance extension, small business jobs, and the emergency supplemental appropriations bill.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—H.R. 5712

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I am of the belief that H.R. 5712 is due for a second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will read the title of the bill for the second time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5712) to provide for certain clarifications and extensions under Medicare, Medicaid, and the Children's Health Insurance Program.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I object to any further proceedings on this legislation at this time.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is heard.

The bill will be placed on the calendar.

EMERGENCY UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, when millions of Americans lost their jobs, they did not just lose a place to go to work in the morning; they lost their incomes, their savings, and their retirement security. They lost their tuition payments. Many lost their homes. They lost their gas money, their grocery money, and many other things—all of this through no fault of their own.

I am not talking about a handful of people in isolated corners of this country. I am talking about millions of Americans from every one of our States. To so many of them, unemployment is not just a temporary inconvenience. For far too many, it is an unending emergency.

As the front page of today's New York Times reports—and it is the same in newspapers all over the nation—40 percent of the unemployed in this country have been out of work for 6 months or longer. They are trying to understand why at this pressing moment—when jobs are harder to come by

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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